wherein aberrant expression of SEQ ID NO:2 or a defect in a GR gene encoding SEQ ID NO:2 as compared to SEQ ID NO:1 indicates a diagnosis of glaucoma.

5. (amended) A method for determining whether an agent is useful for treating glaucoma, said method comprising the steps:

(a) obtaining a composition comprising SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) admixing said composition with an agent; and

(c) determining whether the agent interacts with SEQ ID NO:1 or alters the expression of SEQ ID NO:2.

II. RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

A. Status of the Claims

The present application is a Continuing Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) based on parent application No. 09/308,295. Claims 1-5 were filed with the case. In the parent application, the claims were under final rejection as being indefinite and lacking enablement. The claims are rejected for the same reasons herein.

Claims 1-5 were pending at the time of the present Action. Claims 3 and 4 are cancelled herein. Claims 1 and 5 are amended herein to clarify the subject matter of the claims. Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 5 can be found in the specification at page 2, lines 14-19. No claims are added herein. Thus, claims 1, 2 and 5 are currently pending. As required in 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(ii), a marked up version of the amendments to the specification and claims is attached hereto as Appendix A. For the Examiner's convenience, a clean copy of all pending claims is attached hereto as Appendix B.